



Recycling Lines

Electronic Newsletter

March 2008

*Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Environmental Enhancement
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DEQ's Community Involvement Initiative: The Department of Environmental Quality is dedicated to helping the public better understand DEQ's role in protecting the environment, and to involving the public more effectively in environmental decision making.

Welcome to Recycling Lines, We hope that some of this information is helpful to you in your programs, and hope you'll help us with news from your area related recycling. Let us know by sending this information to Steve Coe at gscoe@deq.virginia.gov.

Recycling Bins Grant Opportunity

The Coca-Cola Company and the National Recycling Coalition are accepting applications through April 4, 2008 for its spring grant cycle.

Coca-Cola and the NRC support local community recycling programs by providing bins to selected grant recipients for the collection of beverage containers in public settings. This opportunity is open to government, civic, school, non-profit and for-profit companies.

In the fall of 2007, seventy-six grants were awarded. **Manassas Park City Schools** applied for this grant and was one of the recipients.

For more information, go to www.bingrant.org

Local Government List of Household Hazardous Waste Information

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has posted a list regional HHW collection contacts for local governments. To view the list, go to:

<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/recycle/contactus.html>

The list was provided to us by Christine Arcari, DEQ. Please let Sheila Barnett and Ms. Arcari know if you have any changes or additions that should be made to this list. My contact information is smbarnett@deq.virginia.gov or (804) 698-4055.

Ms. Arcari's contact information is: cjarcari@deq.virginia.gov or (804) 698-4219.

The Shamrock Marathon

The Shamrock Marathon in **Norfolk** is the first event in Virginia to be certified by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) as a green event.

A reusable bag (instead of a plastic bag) was given to the participants this year and contained the runner's information.

There are an estimated 35,000 water bottles consumed at the finish line, so Tidewater Fiber suggested (and provided) recycling bins to capture most of the plastic at this location.

The Shamrock store used recyclable paper bags and a food bank collected leftover food.

A company called Soles for Souls was present at the expo and collected gently used shoes to ship abroad.

The Shamrock Marathon weekend began March 14, 2008. For more information, contact Holly Carson, Keep Norfolk Beautiful, at holly.carson@norfolk.gov or (757)-441-1347.

Did You Know?

- ✓ The Recycling Rate Report form for CY 2007 is available! Go to: <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/recycle/mandatory.html> to download a copy of the form and to get more information. The report is due to the Office of Recycling and Litter Prevention by April 30, 2008. Please contact Sheila Barnett at smbarnett@deq.virginia.gov or (804) 698-4055 or Steve Coe at gscoe@deq.virginia.gov or (804) 698-2389 if you have questions.
- ✓ The Environment Virginia 2008 Conference will be held April 1 – 3, 2008 in Lexington. For more information and to register, go to www.environmentva.org
- ✓ The **Virginia Recycling Association's Spring Conference** is scheduled for May 19 – 21, 2008 in Virginia Beach. For more information and to register go to: <http://www.vrarecycles.org/conference.htm> or contact Erica Trout at ericatrout@msn.com or (804) 302-4231.
- ✓ The 2008 Municipal Recycling Survey compiled by Waste News is now available. Waste News targeted the nation's 30 largest cities. Go to: <http://www.wastenews.com/rankings/mrs2007.html>

VRA's School Recycling Workshop

The **Virginia Recycling Association (VRA)** hosted a school recycling workshop at the Greater Richmond Convention Center in the City of Richmond on March 10 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Approximately 200 teachers, administrators, school officials, and local government employees attended the event. Fourteen vendors were available to discuss services that their company's could provide to schools.

The VRA's School Recycling Initiative study revealed that only about 20 percent of Virginia schools currently have recycling programs; however, there is a strong desire among the students, staff, administrators and parents to have recycling available in schools.

The VRA introduced a new publication titled "A Guide to Recycling in Virginia Schools" to assist in the design and implementation of starting recycling programs in schools.

The Workshop was so successful that two more workshops are being scheduled. There will be one in Abingdon and Fairfax.

For more information about the School Recycling Initiative, contact Erica Trout at ericatrout@msn.com or (804) 302-4231.

Recycling Lines Continued

Keep Henrico Beautiful Environmentally Themed Bulletin Board Kits

The following was submitted by Megan Brown, Executive Director, Keep Henrico Beautiful:

The Keep Henrico Beautiful Committee works with Henrico County's teachers to support Environmental Standards of Learning that promote keeping our County healthy and clean. By working to help educate our youngest citizens about litter control and the benefits of reusing and recycling materials, we help our entire community reach our civic goals. To this end, the Keep Henrico Beautiful Committee created an *Environmentally Themed Bulletin Board Kit* for each kindergarten, first and second grade classroom. Based on Virginia's Standards of Learning, the Bulletin Board Kits contain important vocabulary words and phrases, such as: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Don't Litter, and Care for the Environment. Colorful cut outs of children working to help their community are included in the kit to support this important message.

For more information, contact Megan Brown at bro77@co.henrico.va.us or 804-501-7277

Recycling Presentations Presented at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG)

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) will host the following presentations for 2008. The meetings are open to the public.

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| March 20 | Impact of Digital Television Change in 2009 |
| May 15 | Ensuring Proper Recycling |
| July 17 | School Recycling |
| September 18 | Non-Traditional Recyclables (Batteries, non-bottle plastics) |
| December 4 | Communicating a Recycling Message in the Green Climate |

Contact John Snarr to register for these meetings.
jsnarr@mwkog.org or (202) 962-3359

One Millionth Mercury Switch Removed

The EPA reported on February 29, 2008 that 1 million mercury switches had been removed from scrapped vehicles through the National Vehicle Mercury Switch Recovery Program. Vehicles are the most recycled consumer good in America. If the mercury switches are not removed, a significant amount of mercury can be released in to the environment as air emissions. The air emissions are a primary source of mercury that is a threat to human health and the environment. For more information about the Mercury Switch Program and how to join, go to:
<http://www.epa.gov/mercury/switch.htm>

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Upcoming Recycling Events: April

The Central Virginia Waste Management Authority (CVWMA) has 10 single day recycling collections scheduled for their jurisdictions in Central Virginia in April and May. For a list of events, locations, and what is being accepted, go to: http://www.cvwma.com/recycling_programs/electronics.wbp or call the Recycling Hotline at (804) 340-0900.

- 12** **City of Martinsville and Henry County,** Household Hazardous Waste Day, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Henry County Administration Building Parking Lot. Contact The **Gateway Streetscape Foundation** at (276) 634-4674 or gateway@co.henry.va.us

- 14 - 18** **Norfolk** Electronics Recycling, 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. Wal Mart at 7530 Tidewater Drive. Residents are invited to bring VHS Beta tapes, DVDs, CD's, video games, etc to be exchanged or donated or recycled. Contact Holly Carson at holly.carson@norfolk.gov or (757) 441-1347.

- 19** **Arlington** Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (E-CARE), 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Thomas Jefferson Middle School, 125 S. Old Glebe Road. Collection of Household hazardous materials, bikes, small metal items, electronic equipment, shoes and eyeglasses. Compost bins will be for sale too. Go to <http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/environmentalservices/environmentalservicesenvex.aspx> or call (703) 228-6570

- 19** **Chesterfield County** Celebrate our Earth Event, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Chesterfield Towne Center. Includes an recycling collection and document shredding. Information about composting, Household Hazardous Waste (HHW), Recycling, storm water management, energy management, and alternative Fuels. Contact the Office of Environmental Management at (804) 717-6531.

- 19** **Gloucester County** Household Harmful Waste Collection, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Route 17 Landfill. Contact Lorna Frazier-Lindsey at llindsey@gloucesterv.a.info or (804)693-5370 or <http://www.gloucesterv.a.info/clean/household.htm>

- 19** **Norfolk** Electronics Recycling Day, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. in the WHRO parking lot (Hampton Blvd. & 49th Street) In addition to accepting electronics for recycling, there will be a media swap. Residents are invited to bring VHS Beta tapes, DVDs, CD's, video games, etc to be exchanged or donated or recycled. Contact Holly Carson at holly.carson@norfolk.gov or (757) 441-1347.